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October 15, 1985

President Ronald Reagan
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to you in my capacity as a New York State Senator, as well as a citizen concerned about the fate of a truly honorable man, Mr. Raoul Wallenberg. I feel that the upcoming summit meeting between Mr. Gorbachev and yourself will be an excellent opportunity for you to broach this important issue.

Attorney Gideon Hausner, the man who prosecuted Adolf Eichmann, expresses the special significance of Raoul Wallenberg: "Here is a man who had the choice of remaining in secure, neutral Sweden when Nazism was ruling Europe. Instead, he left this haven and went to what was then one of the most perilous places in Europe, Hungary. And for what? To save Jews. He won his battle and I feel that in this age when there is so little to believe in - so very little on which our young people can pin their hopes and ideals - he is a person to show to the world, which knows so little about him."

Estimates on the number of lives that Wallenberg saved range from thirty thousand to one hundred thousand. But whether it be thirty thousand, one hundred thousand, or somewhere in between, Wallenberg must surely rank as the outstanding unsung hero of World War II: While others were performing acts of valour on the battle field, Wallenberg was daily exposing himself to enormous risk, preserving life.

As you know, the Russians insist that Mr. Wallenberg died of a heart attack in 1947. However, there is a great body of evidence to suggest that he is still alive - this issue must be presented to the Soviets.

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As the talmud, which contains the authoritative body of Jewish tradition, states: "Whoever saves a single soul, it is as if

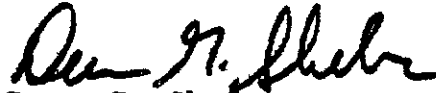
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had saved the whole world." Mr. President, it is imperative that action be taken on this most important issue.

I thank you in advance of your efforts.

Sincerely,



Dean G. Skelos
Senator - 9th District

DGS/jmm

cc: Governor Cuomo
✓ Secretary of State George Schlutz

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